REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 and 10-23 have been allowed.

Fax:7132668510

In the present document, claim 1 has been amended to clarify the claim language. Element (a) of the claim has been amended to correct a typographic error.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee due for the amendments herein and to charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 02-0429 (584-28566-US)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 25, 2005

Kaushik P. Sriram, Reg. No. 43,150 Madan, Mossman & Sriram, P.C.

2603 Augusta Suite 700 Houston, Texas 77057-5638

Tel: (713) 266-1130 x 121 Fax: (713) 266-8510 Attorney For Applicants